IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1 (Currently Amended). A method of driving a liquid crystal display device,

[[said]] the liquid crystal display device including:

an orientation film over a substrate; and

a liquid crystal material over the orientation film, said liquid crystal material having a chiral smectic C_R phase,

wherein a brightness of said liquid crystal material increases monotonically according to an increase of a voltage value applied to said liquid crystal material, and

wherein the liquid crystal material has an approximately V-shaped electrooptical characteristic,

[[said]] the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

displaying a first black level by the liquid crystal material in a first period;

applying a first voltage to the liquid crystal material for a first gradation display in a second period just after the first period; [[,]]

displaying a second black level by the liquid crystal material in a third period just after the second period; and

applying a second voltage to the liquid crystal material for a second gradation display in a fourth period just after the second period

~~wherein the second period comes before or after the first period~~.

2. (Currently Amended) A method of driving a liquid crystal display device,

[[said]] the liquid crystal display device including:

an orientation film over a substrate; and

a liquid crystal material over the orientation film, said liquid crystal material having a chiral smectic C_R phase,

wherein a brightness of said liquid crystal material increases monotonically according to an increase of a voltage value applied to said liquid crystal material, and

wherein the liquid crystal material has an approximately V-shaped electrooptical characteristic,

[[said]] the method comprising t~~he steps of~~:

canceling out a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material in a first period; and

applying a first voltage to the liquid crystal material for a first gradation display in a second period just after the first period; [[,]]

canceling out the spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material in a third period just after the second period;

applying a second voltage to the liquid crystal material for a second gradation display in a fourth period just after the third period

~~wherein the second period comes before or after the first period~~.

3 (Currently Amended). A method of driving a liquid crystal display device:

[[said]] the liquid crystal display device including:

an orientation film over a substrate; and

a liquid crystal material over the orientation film, said liquid crystal material having a chiral smectic C_R phase,

wherein a brightness of said liquid crystal material increases monotonically according to an increase of a voltage value applied to said liquid crystal material, and

wherein the liquid crystal material has an approximately V-shaped electrooptical characteristic,

[[said]] the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

applying a voltage of 0V to the liquid crystal material in a first period; and

applying a first voltage to the liquid crystal material for a first gradation display in a second period just after the first period,

applying a voltage of 0V to the liquid crystal material in a third period just after the second period; [[,]]

applying a voltage to the liquid crystal material for a second gradation display in a fourth period just after the third period

~~wherein the second period comes before or after the first period~~.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a plurality of active elements are formed over the substrate.

5. (Original) A method according to claim 4,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements applies a voltage to the liquid crystal material, and

wherein the voltage has an upper limit.

6. (Original) A method according to claim 5,

wherein the upper limit of the voltage has an absolute value of 7 V or less.

7. (Original) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 - 150 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 15 nm - 75 nm.

8. (Original) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 20 nC/cm^2 - 40 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 30 nm - 150 nm.

9. (Original) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 or less.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a first response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between a [[first]] <u>third</u> voltage and a ~~second~~ <u>fourth</u> voltage having an opposite polarity to the [[first]] <u>third</u> voltage not via a voltage of 0V,

wherein a second response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between [[a]] the first voltage and [[a]] the second voltage having an opposite polarity to the first voltage via the voltage of 0V,

wherein the second response time is five times or more as short as the first response time.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 4,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements is connected in series to an auxiliary capacitor.

12 (Currently Amended). A method of driving a liquid crystal display device,

[[said]] the liquid crystal display device including:

a plurality of thin film transistors being provided over a substrate;

an auxiliary capacitor being connected in series to each of the plurality of thin film transistors;

an orientation film over each of the plurality of thin film transistors; and

a liquid crystal material over the orientation film, said liquid crystal material having a spontaneous polarization and being connected in parallel to the auxiliary capacitor,

wherein a brightness of said liquid crystal material increases monotonically according to an increase of a voltage value applied to said liquid crystal material,

wherein the liquid crystal material has an approximately V-shaped electrooptical characteristic.

[[said]] the method comprising ~~the steps of~~:

applying a voltage of 0V to the liquid crystal material in a first period through a single thin film transistor of [[said]] the plurality of thin film transistors; and

performing a first gradation display in a second period through [[said]] the single thin film transistor just after the first period,

applying a voltage of 0V to the liquid crystal material in a third period through a single thin film transistor of said plurality of thin film transistors just after the second period; and

performing a second gradation display in a fourth period through said single thin film transistor just after the third period.

~~wherein the second period comes before or after the first period~~.

13. (Original) A method according to claim 12,

wherein a transmittance of the liquid crystal material is uniquely determined when voltages having a same absolute value and opposite polarities are applied thereto.

14. (Original) A method according to claim 12,

wherein the liquid crystal material has a same tilt angle when voltages having a same absolute value and opposite polarities are applied thereto.

15. (Original) A method according to claim 12,

wherein the liquid crystal material has a chiral smectic C_R phase.

16. (Original) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal is 100 nC/cm^2 or less, and

wherein the thickness of the orientation film is 75 nm or less.

17. (Original) A method according to claim 2,

wherein a plurality of active elements are formed over the substrate.

18. (Original) A method according to claim 17,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements applies a voltage to the liquid crystal material, and

wherein the voltage has an upper limit.

19. (Original) A method according to claim 18,

wherein the upper limit of the voltage has an absolute value of 7 V or less.

20. (Original) A method according to claim 2,

wherein the spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 - 150 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 15 nm - 75 nm.

21. (Original) A method according to claim 2,

wherein the spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 20 nC/cm^2 - 40 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 30 nm - 150 nm.

22. (Original) A method according to claim 2,

wherein the spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 or less.

23. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 2,

wherein a [[first]] <u>third</u> response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between a first voltage and a ~~second~~ <u>fourth</u> voltage having an opposite polarity to the first voltage not via a voltage of 0V,

wherein a second response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between [[a]] <u>the</u> first voltage and [[a]] <u>the</u> second voltage having an opposite polarity to the first voltage via the voltage of 0V,

wherein the second response time is five times or more as short as the first response time.

24. (Original) A method according to claim 17,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements is connected in series to an auxiliary capacitor.

25. (Original) A method according to claim 2,

wherein the spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal is 100 nC/cm^2 or less, and

wherein the thickness of the orientation film is 75 nm or less.

26. (Original) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a plurality of active elements are formed over the substrate.

27. (Original) A method according to claim 26,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements applies a voltage to the liquid crystal material, and

wherein the voltage has an upper limit.

28. (Original) A method according to claim 27,

wherein the upper limit of the voltage has an absolute value of 7 V or less.

29. (Original) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 - 150 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 15 nm - 75 nm.

30. (Original) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 20 nC/cm^2 - 40 nC/cm^2, and

wherein a thickness of the orientation film is 30 nm - 150 nm.

31. (Original) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal material is 40 nC/cm^2 or less.

32. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a [[first]] third response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between a first voltage and a ~~second~~ fourth voltage having an opposite polarity to the first voltage not via the voltage of 0V,

wherein a second response time is defined as a response time of the liquid crystal material between [[a]] the first voltage and [[a]] the second voltage having an opposite polarity to the first voltage via the voltage of 0V,

wherein the second response time is five times or more as short as the first response time.

33. (Original) A method according to claim 26,

wherein each of the plurality of active elements is connected in series to an auxiliary capacitor.

34. (Original) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a spontaneous polarization of the liquid crystal is 100 nC/cm^2 or less, and

wherein the thickness of the orientation film is 75 nm or less.

35. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1,

wherein said liquid crystal material is driven by active matrix driving

36. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2,

wherein said liquid crystal material is driven by active matrix driving.

37. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3,

wherein said liquid crystal material is driven by active matrix driving.

38. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1,

wherein said black level is displayed by applying a voltage of 0V to the liquid crystal material.

39. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 1,

wherein a quantity of light changes by changing the voltage value.

40. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 2,

wherein a quantity of light changes by changing the voltage value.

41. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 3,

wherein a quantity of light changes by changing the voltage value.

42-44 (Canceled).